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Attorney Docket No.: F-299

Patent

Amendment To The Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A postage metering system for dispensing postage, the system comprising:

a modem for receiving an incoming telephone call;

a printer module for printing on a recording medium;

a control system in operative communication with the modem and the printer module; the control system for:

storing a voice message associated with the telephone call;

translating the voice message into a computer based text; and

printing a print message from the computer based text using the printer module; and

sending the voice message and print message to a central server.

2. (original) The postage metering system of claim 1, further comprising:

an input hopper for holding a stack of recording media; and

a transport module for feeding the recording medium one at a time from the stack downstream in a path of travel past the printer module; and

wherein the control system is further for:

automatically feeding the recording medium from the input hopper and

initiating printing of the print message in response to a previously established print parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

3. (original) The postage metering system of claim 2, wherein:

the previously established print parameter is automatic printing in response to receipt of the voice message.

4. (original) The postage metering system of claim 3, wherein:

the recording medium is a strip tape.

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5. (original) The postage metering system of claim 1, wherein:
the control system is further for:
parsing the computer based text to create special print characteristics within the print message to highlight critical data in response to a previously established parsing parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.
6. (original) The postage metering system of claim 5, wherein:
the previously established parsing parameter is names.
7. (original) The postage metering system of claim 4, wherein:
the control system is further for:
parsing the computer based text to create a special print characteristic within the print message to highlight critical data contained within the voice message in response to a previously established parsing parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.
8. (original) The postage metering system of claim 7, wherein:
the previously established parsing parameter includes names as critical data and bold printing as the special print characteristic.
9. (original) The postage metering system of claim 8, further comprising:
a clock module for supplying real time clock data to the control system; and
wherein the control system is further for:
creating header information associated with the voice message, the header information including a date/time stamp, a duration indication and a message number indication; and
printing the header information with the print message.

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10. (currently amended) A method of operating a postage meter system for printing a message, the method comprising the step(s) of:

- receiving an incoming telephone call;
- storing a voice message associated with the telephone call;
- translating the voice message into a computer based text; and
- printing a print message on a recording medium from the computer based text using a printer module; and
- sending the voice message and print message to a central server.

11. (original) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step(s) of:

- storing a stack of recording media in an input hopper; and
- feeding the recording medium one at a time from the stack downstream in a path of travel past the printer module; and
- automatically feeding the recording medium from the input hopper and initiating printing of the print message in response to a previously established print parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein:

- the previously established print parameter is automatic printing in response to receipt of the voice message.

13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein:

- the recording medium is a strip tape.

14. (original) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step(s) of:

- parsing the computer based text to create special print characteristics within the print message to highlight critical data in response to a previously established parsing parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

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15. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein:

the previously established parsing parameter is names.

16. (original) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step(s) of:

parsing the computer based text to create special print characteristics within the print message to highlight critical data in response to a previously established parsing parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

17. (original) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step(s) of:

the previously established parsing parameter includes names as critical data and bold printing as the special print characteristic.

18. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step(s) of:

using a clock module to supply real time clock data;
creating header information associated with the voice message, the header information including a date/time stamp, a duration indication and a message number indication; and
printing the header information with the print message.

19. (currently amended) A method of operating a telephone answering machine, the method comprising the step(s) of:

receiving an incoming telephone call;
storing a voice message associated with the telephone call;
translating the voice message into a computer based text; and
printing a print message on a recording medium from the computer based text using a printer module; and
sending the voice message and print message to a central server.

20. (original) The method of claim 19, further comprising the step(s) of:

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storing a stack of recording media in an input hopper; and
feeding the recording medium one at a time from the stack downstream in a path of travel past the printer module; and
automatically feeding the recording medium from the input hopper and initiating printing of the print message in response to a previously established print parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

21. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein:

the previously established print parameter is automatic printing in response to receipt of the voice message.

22. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein:

the recording medium is a strip tape.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim 19 22, further comprising the step(s) of:

parsing the computer based text to create special print characteristics within the print message to highlight critical data in response to a previously established parsing parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

24. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein:

the previously established parsing parameter is names.

25. (original) The method of claim 22, further comprising the step(s) of:

parsing the computer based text to create special print characteristics within the print message to highlight critical data in response to a previously established parsing parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

26. (original) The method of claim 25, further comprising the step(s) of:

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the previously establish d parsing parameter includes names as critical data and bold printing as the special print characteristic.

27. (original) The method of claim 26, further comprising the step(s) of:
using a clock module to supply real time clock data;
creating header information associated with the voice message, the header information including a date/time stamp, a duration indication and a message number indication; and
printing the header information with the print message.